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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

11 September 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Fresno – Bulldog Gang Leaders Arrested in Probe of Sex Trafficking, Gun, and Drug Sales

(U) Fresno police and multiple federal agencies announced on 8 September the arrest of Bulldog Gang leaders allegedly involved in human trafficking and sales of firearms and narcotics in an operation dubbed "Alpha Dog" that involved extensive use of wiretaps on gang shot callers since 2016. Police officers and agents from the FBI, DEA, ATF, Homeland Security, and other agencies served 13 federal and state search warrants and 25 arrest warrants, resulting in 32 arrests. Thirteen pounds of methamphetamine and multiple firearms, including a fully automatic machine gun, were seized. SOURCE: 8 September 2017, Fresno Bee

(U) Fullerton – OC Man Arrested on Suspicion of Human Trafficking, Possibly of Larger Organziation

(U) A 27-year-old Fullerton man was arrested for suspicion of human trafficking, authorities said on 9 September, with the belief that the man may be a part of a possible human trafficking organization. Fullerton police received an anonymous tip last week that a woman was possibly being held against her will in a local apartment. Detectives began surveillance and detained the suspect after he left the apartment. They found two women inside and further investigation revealed they were victims of human trafficking and prostitution, a Fullerton Police sergeant said.

SOURCE: 9 September 2017, NBC Los Angeles

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US Heroin Deaths Jump 533% Since 2002, Report Says

(U) Washington – The number of people who had fatal overdoses related to heroin has skyrocketed from 2,089 in 2002 to an estimated 13,219 in 2016—a 533% jump—according to the most recent government numbers. Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Tom Price said more American lives are lost to drugs than were lost in Vietnam, with drug overdose deaths expected to reach an all-time high of 71,600 this year. Opioids continue to be the drivers for these overdoses, including both legally prescribed prescription painkillers as well as illegal drugs. The number of overdose deaths related to merely fentanyl is expected to more than double, from an estimated 9,945 in 2016 to 20,145 in 2017, according to the CDC.

SOURCE: 8 September 2017, CNN

(U) District of Columbia – White House: No Credible Threat Leading up to 9/11 Anniversary

(U) Washington – White House Homeland Security adviser Tom Bossert says there is no "credible" terrorist threat against the United States leading up to the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Speaking from the White House on 8 September, Bossert stated that there is no "current, credible, actionable threat," while adding that "no terrorist should view us as vulnerable right now." Bossert reported that President Trump will receive a comprehensive picture of the current terrorist threat environment, likely today on the anniversary of the attacks.

SOURCE: 8 September 2017, Associated Press

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(U) Minnesota – Released Court Files Reveal College Student Left to Join ISIS in 2015

(U) Minneapolis – A suburban Minneapolis college student left his family while on vacation in Morocco two years ago and joined ISIS in Syria, according to newly unsealed court files. Abdelhamid Al-Madioum, then age 18, apparently booked a flight from Morocco to Turkey in July 2015 after skipping dinner with relatives and was gone the next day, along with his cellphone and passport. The case is the first disclosure of someone from Minnesota trying to join ISIS since nine Minnesota men were sentenced in federal court last year for plotting unsuccessfully to join the terrorist group.

SOURCE: 10 September 2017, Associated Press

(U) Oregon – Antifa, Far-Right Protesters Clash, Disrupting Peaceful Rallies

(U) Portland – Political rallies in Portland and a neighboring town gave way to violence yesterday afternoon when black-clad antifa activists attacked police officers and far-right demonstrators, while other protesters from rival groups scuffled in the streets. Two officers were treated for minor injuries after protesters fired slingshots and threw rocks, bottles and other projectiles at them, according to the Portland Police Bureau. At least nine people were arrested throughout the day on charges that included interfering with a police officer and disorderly conduct.

SOURCE: 11 September 2017, Washington Post

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Iraq - Government Holding 1,400 Foreign Wives, Children of Suspected ISIS Fighters

(U) Mosul – Iraqi authorities are holding 1,400 foreign wives and children of suspected ISIS fighters after government forces expelled the group from one of its last remaining strongholds in Iraq, security and aid officials said. The wives and children—from Turkey, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Russia, and a few from Asian and Western states—are being held at an Iraqi camp south of Mosul. Most had arrived since 30 August, when Iraqi troops drove ISIS out of Mosul. Officials are trying to determine how to deal with the influx, with one interior ministry official saying that Iraq wanted to negotiate the return of the women and children with the respective embassies.

SOURCE: 10 September 2017, Reuters

(U) Somalia - Al Shabaab Attacks Somali Army Base, At Least 17 Killed

(U) Mogadishu – Somali government forces have regained control of a town on the border with Kenya after al Shabaab militants stormed an army base there earlier today, causing heavy clashes in which at least 17 people died, the military said. The insurgents attacked the base at Balad Hawo early in the morning with a car suicide bombing before entering the compound, both sides said. An al Shabaab spokesman said the group's fighters left the town after releasing 35 prisoners from the local jail. Residents confirmed fighting had ended and that the militants had left the town.

SOURCE: 11 September 2017, Reuters

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – El Paso DEA Leader Talks of New Drug Cartel, Meth Issue

(U) El Paso – Mexican drug cartels continue to expand into heroin and methamphetamine trafficking as they turn away from marijuana, said the departing leader of the US Drug Enforcement Administration in El Paso. The growing drug trend in the El Paso region has been the shift by Mexican cartels toward heroin and methamphetamine trafficking, Special Agent-in-Charge Will Glaspy said. He also stated that a new drug cartel has started to emerge in the El Paso-Juárez region, which is still dominated by the Juárez and Sinaloa cartels. DEA investigations have found drug cells in the region with ties to the Cartel de Jalisco Nueva Generacion, or CJNG.

SOURCE: 10 September 2017, El Paso Times

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